GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3010
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2004
ACCIDENT OF SARAS
Chakraborty Shri Ajay

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Saras met with an accident during its a test flight;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether due to this accident the 'Saras' project would be delayed ; and

(d) if so, the time by which Saras will become operational ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) : No Sir. Saras did not meet with an accident, but there was a minor incident during the third test flight on 19th July, 2004.

(b) : The Saras aircraft after touch down veered to one side of the runway and then to the other. One of the main wheels went off the runway before the aircraft was controlled and brought back on to the runway and stopped.

(c)&(d) : After any incident, even minor , the aircraft has to be thoroughly examined for continued airworthiness and the reason for the incident ascertained and remedial action to be taken to prevent its recurrence. All the requirements for commencing the flight testing have been completed. Following a few taxi trials, flight test is expected to resume in the third week of the August, 2004.